

Series 65 At a Glance

Uniform Investment Adviser Law Exam

EXAM SPECIFICATIONS

- ◆ Exam length: 3 hours
- ◆ Number of questions: 130 + 10 ungraded (140 total)
- ◆ Passing score: 72% (94 of 130)

RECOMMENDED PREPARATION

- ◆ 50–100 hours (4–8 weeks while working full-time)
- ◆ Questions to complete:
 - 2,000–2,500 online practice questions

STUDY RESOURCES AVAILABLE

1. Digital and physical textbooks
2. Online question bank with over 2,800 practice questions
3. Final benchmark PDF exam
4. Class summaries and supplements
5. Digital flashcards

All online study resources can be accessed in your Training Center at www.knopman.com

AVAILABLE CLASS FORMATS

- ◆ Live training (in person or remote)
- ◆ Online video lectures
- ◆ Accessible across all mobile devices

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BEST PROCESS TO PREPARE FOR THE EXAM

1. Read the book.
 - ◆ Do not take notes. Read to gain exposure and familiarity with the content.
 - ◆ Pay special attention to “Take Note,” “Test Topic Alert,” and “Example” items, as well as the appendices and glossary, which are important and valuable resources.
2. Attend a live class or watch the on-demand lectures.
 - ◆ You can begin the practice exams before attending class. Doing so will make the class more valuable but is not required.
3. Complete at least 1,000–1,500 Qbank questions, first on individual topics or small groups of topics, then on all topics, using these settings:
 - ◆ Select the **gold** “Custom Quiz” button (*not* the **red** “Simulate Exam” button).
 - ◆ Under “Topics Available” check the “All Questions” box.
 - ◆ Under “Questions to Include” select “Unused.”
 - ◆ Under “Number of Questions” take practice quizzes of 30–60 questions.
 - ◆ Under “Quiz Features” check “Show Score As You Go” and “Show Answer Explanations.”
 - ◆ Finally, select “Launch Quiz.”

For EVERY question you miss or are unsure of, return to the book and review the section referenced in the explanation.

Final Prep (1–2 weeks)

4. Once you have completed 1,000–1,500 questions and are scoring 72% or higher, complete five 140-question Qbank exams on all topics.
 - ◆ Uncheck “Show Score As You Go” and “Show Answer Explanations” under “Quiz Features”—practice pacing, endurance, and timing by completing these exams in 3 hours; aim for 80% and review all missed questions.
5. Complete the benchmark exam three to four days prior to your exam. Review each question and answer explanation.
6. Review your class notes and the class supplements multiple times.

GENERAL EXAM COMMENTS AND GUIDANCE

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- ◆ **Do not underestimate the Series 65.** If you are not **consistently scoring 80%** on new questions, continue studying. Passing the exam requires a thorough understanding of securities products and state laws, rules, and regulations that can only be acquired with a comprehensive study effort. Industry experience alone is not sufficient.
- ◆ **Qbank exams v. real exam:** The real exam is slightly harder than the Qbank exams because the questions are longer and more ambiguous. The answer choices are also quite similar to one another, so you must trust your instinct and intuition to select the best answer. Do not second-guess yourself.
- ◆ **Textbook review:** Returning to the book when reviewing questions is key. With this strategy, you will see most topics in the book at least twice. Reading the explanations to the practice questions alone is not enough.
- ◆ **Targeted practice:** If you underperform on certain topics, re-read the relevant unit and take a targeted, 30-question exam on just that unit (e.g., 30 questions on Unit 2).
- ◆ **Securities products:** The sections on investment vehicle characteristics and recommendations of the Series 65 require students to align their understanding with the regulators'. At times, this can be challenging, as some questions may have multiple possible answers, but only one "best" answer exists. Selecting what the regulators deem to be the best answer requires practice and, at times, an adjustment of a student's real-world experience. Practicing questions from Units 2, 3, and 4 will help with this calibration.
- ◆ **Evaluating investments:** Review the technical (the actual calculation and formulas) and fundamental concepts (e.g., NPV, FV, DCF, total return, ratios) of investment evaluation.
- ◆ **Securities laws:** The law portion of the Series 65 accounts for 30% of the exam. Students may be the least familiar with this information when beginning to prepare for the exam, but often, they perform best in this section on the actual exam. Mastering the law section in Unit 1 is a worthwhile study investment.

EXAM BREAKDOWN

Topic	Number of Questions
Economic Factors and Business Information	20
Investment Vehicle Characteristics	32
Client Investment Recommendations and Strategies	39
Laws, Regulations, and Guidelines, Including Prohibition on Unethical Business Practices	39
Total	130

HOW TO GET HELP

- ◆ Technical support (including Qbank access issues), class enrollments, general administrative questions: material@knopman.com
- ◆ Content-related questions: follow up directly with your instructor, or email our teaching staff at ts@knopman.com
- ◆ These inboxes are checked during weekdays, evenings, and weekends.